

AROMATIC SULFONE HYDROXAMIC ACIDS
AND THEIR USE AS PROTEASE INHIBITORS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 This invention is directed to aromatic sulfone hydroxamates (also known as aromatic sulfone hydroxamic acids) and salts thereof that, *inter alia*, tend to inhibit matrix metalloproteinase (also known as matrix metalloprotease or MMP) activity and/or aggrecanase activity. This invention also is directed to a treatment method that comprises administering such a compound or salt in an MMP-inhibiting and/or
10 aggrecanase-inhibiting effective amount to an animal, particularly a mammal having (or disposed to having) a pathological condition associated with MMP activity and/or aggrecanase activity.